

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

DREW PEARSON
& ROBERT ALLEN

Washington, D. C. EMBARGO ON JAPAN DEBATED

The group inside the cabinet which favors a complete stoppage of Japan's raw materials of war, especially her oil, includes Secretary of War Stimson, Secretary of the Navy Knox, Secretary of Interior Ickes, and Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau—also certain admirals in the navy. Perhaps it is significant that the strongest advocates of complete embargoes against Japan are the three Republican members of the cabinet—Stimson, Knox and Ickes.

On the other hand, the state department plus some of the admirals favor a go-slow policy toward Japan. They believe in applying the embargoes gradually, or as Mr. Ickes describes it, "cutting off the dog's tail by inches."

The state department concurs that cutting off Japan's oil would paralyze her fleet after her present 2½ months' supply was exhausted. But they also believe it would force Japan to move into the Dutch East Indies immediately in order to get more oil.

Last week one argument over this point and over general naval policy in the Far East developed into a hot debate between the navy, on one side, and Hull and Welles on the other. It took place at the White House, in front of the President, who did most of the listening.

Hull and Welles contended that if we stopped Japan's oil supply she would certainly attack the Dutch East Indies, and that the United States could not possibly afford to have ships in that area because they might be needed in Atlantic waters. Welles pointed out that the Germans might seize the Azores or the French naval base at Dakar, West Africa, which would menace South America.

To this, Admiral Leahy, now governor of Puerto Rico and one of Roosevelt's closest naval advisers, replied:

"Gentlemen, we don't have to worry about Dakar and the Azores now. The British fleet can still prevent Germany from taking them. But a few months from now it may be different. By next spring, or even this winter, the war may have gone against the British in the Mediterranean, and then we'll have two oceans to defend. Now we have only one."

U. S.-BORN JAPANESE

Only insiders are aware of it, but the new nationality act slaps down another embargo on Japan.

It plugs up a hole in the old immigration laws which permitted American-born Japanese to go to Japan, serve several years in the Japanese army, then return to the U. S. A. and resume citizenship. This has been quite common among the large Japanese population in Hawaii, where many Japanese parents consider it their duty to the emperor to send their children to Japan for military service.

That the new law is specifically aimed at Japan—and her Axis allies—is shown by the fact that when the act was originally written, anyone who enlisted in a foreign army automatically forfeited citizenship. This would have expatriated Americans serving with the Canadian and British armies.

The bill actually passed the house in this form, but then the senate immigration committee did some editing. As finally passed, citizenship is not lost if no oath of allegiance is taken. Canada and Britain do not require the oath of Americans. Japan and her Axis pals do.

Note—The new law also provides that American parents of children born abroad must have resided in the U. S. at least 10 years prior to a birth in order to transmit citizenship. This is aimed at expatriates who retain their citizenship, with all its obligations on the government to protect them, but don't think enough of the United States to live in it.

ARMY PROMOTIONS

Any lowly recruit in the new conscript army has a chance to become an officer within the single year of training.

There has been a lot of confusion about this, and editorials have been written complaining that this is not possible. But Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff, wants it known that the army is still democratic.

Marshall points out that after the first nine months of service, any recruit has a chance to qualify for the "candidate schools" to train recruits for commissions. These schools will be organized during the last three months of the year of service.

In other words, as Napoleon put it, "Every soldier carries a marshal's baton in his knapsack."

POLITICAL CHAFF

Democratic Rep. Bill Schulte of Indiana won a lot of kudos for himself from both the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. for his "prevailing wage" amendments to the bill for the construction of barracks for draftees.

Liberal Rep. Frank Havenner of San Francisco got an unusual send-off when he departed to open his campaign. President Roosevelt sent him a "good luck" telegram and Speaker Sam Rayburn a letter hailing him as one of the most valuable members of the house.

GENERAL HUGH S. JOHNSON Says:

COMMUNITY CHESTS

In these critical days there is so much hot stuff in war and politics to write columns about that one is tempted to neglect things less dramatic but at least of importance to America equal to the clash of empires and the fall of states.

The national Community Chest drive is now under way all over this country. It is the most sensible and scientific method for practical charity ever developed. There was a time when this country went drive-crazy. Well meaning people, whether they were simply riding a worthy hobby or backing a far worthier cause, could always drum up a house-to-house gimme campaign, or post pretty girls rattling dime-in-the-slot cans on every street corner.

The average American is always willing to give something if he has it. By the old helter-skelter method, he couldn't know exactly for what he was giving, how the money would be used, or whether there were not far better uses for his contribution. Also, these "drives" became so frequent that many people either were fed up with the constantly repeated annoyance of solicitation, or simply couldn't afford to give any more. The earlier bird got the dough regardless of its merits.

The community chest idea was an answer to most of these problems. In many cities it is the only "drive" permitted. In nearly all cities it at least combines in one, all "drives" for the worthiest established charities. It is conducted under the most responsible sponsorships there are. This year both the President and Mr. Willkie will start the effort. The funds collected will be divided by the best-informed authorities among the institutions where they are most needed, and will go the furthest to meet human needs.

It is, of course, more heart-warming to give directly to some person or group whose suffering you can see, but none of us can give enough to meet all the needs of our neighbors. None of us separately can judge relative needs. Few of us have the time or training to manage and regulate our giving. For these reasons, indiscriminate giving is always wasteful and sometimes far from fair. The Community Chest method cures all these faults and shortcomings in the best way.

The tremendous sums of public money being expended for relief and charity greatly restrict the flow of gifts, for two reasons. The tax burdens necessary to support them reduce the incomes of potential givers. The billions spent by government make some people believe that there is no longer necessity for private giving.

The fact is that the necessity is greater than ever. Low interest rates have cut the revenue of many endowed charities in half or worse. Public doles can never cover the area of need. Finally, no warm-hearted American can ever feel quite satisfied with charity enforced, or to leave his humanitarian impulses to acts of congress. If there had been far more voluntary sharing through past years, there would be less regimented sharing today—with all the political evils that entails.

The demands upon us all are great and the woes of the world will greatly increase them. It will be well for us to remember that there are still great woes in our own country and that there is nothing in the least selfish in the motto: "Charity begins at home."

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NAVAL BASE AFTERMATH

The acquisition of naval bases was highly popular. It was said in defense of the President's method of obtaining them, that if he had consulted congress, the deal would not have been permitted. Present evidence of popular approval of this result, as far as the bases are concerned, make this conclusion highly doubtful. Be that as it may, there is no doubt on earth that congress would ratify the result today with scarcely a dissenting vote.

It should do so. It is of extreme importance. If the only restraint on the executive in dealing with the laws of the Constitution of the United States is the possible unpopularity of the result, we have surely succumbed to what Westbrook Pegler calls the "what-the-hell" philosophy of laws, morals and obligations. Anything goes if it succeeds regardless of law or principle.

A sovereign nation can do anything it wants and dares to do. It is answerable to nobody. It can declare war or it can authorize acts of war without a declaration. In taking such action, it may be breaking treaties, but, under our Constitution, a treaty of the United States is on equal footing with a law of the United States. A duly enacted statute, so far as our municipal law is concerned, can break or repeal any prior treaty, just as it can break or repeal any prior law.

Students Refuse to Register for Draft



This soundphoto shows students of the Union Theological Seminary in New York city who refused to register for the selective military service. They are shown leaving the federal building after they had appeared before the U. S. grand jury. Failure to register in accordance with the selective service act carries severe penalties. However, very few incidents of failure to register have been reported to authorities.

Vote Fraud Head



Maurice M. Milligan, U. S. attorney for the Western District of Missouri, named to conduct nation-wide investigation into frauds in connection with the national election.

British Subjects Flee Hong Kong



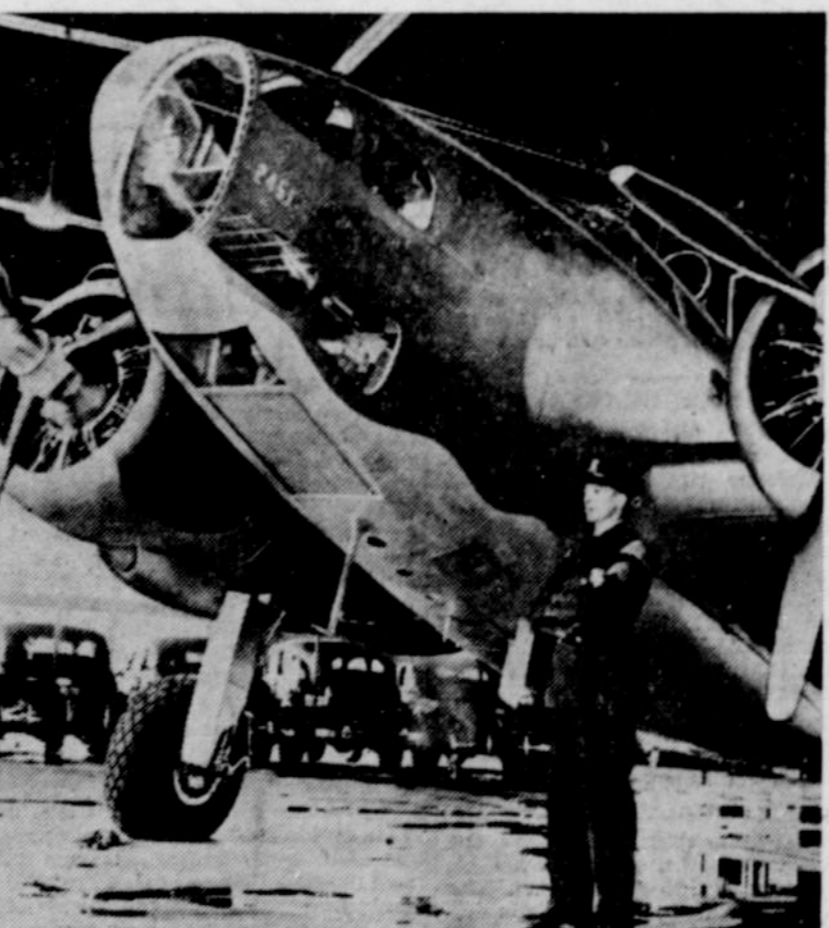
These British subjects evacuated Hong Kong. Mrs. A. Stout, left, and Mrs. H. Crutwell, signing off ship at Sydney, Australia. Notice how they carry their babies around—an idea picked up in the Orient. Americans, too, have been requested by this government to come home from Far Eastern points as the tension in that area increases.

United in Chicago



Adam Szwajkart Jr., 13, refugee from Poland, sees his father, Dr. Adam Szwajkart, of Chicago, for the first time when he arrived at Chicago's municipal airport.

American Bombers for Great Britain



A Lockheed bomber, the first of several bombers which are being manufactured in this country for the British government, which took off recently from the Detroit city airport on the final leg of its flight from California. The camouflaged plane is shown in the hangar where it had been placed under a special guard.

Chief Justice



Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes, leaving home for the opening of the new session of the U. S. Supreme court. A majority of the members are Roosevelt appointees.

Ship Torpedoed—But They're Here!



Capt. Thomas Stewart of the British freighter, Corrientes, in Philadelphia talking with the 50 members of his crew who were saved after their vessel, part of a North Atlantic convoy, had been torpedoed while 500 miles off the British coast. The men took to lifeboats and were picked up four hours later by a Swedish freighter.

British Washington



George Washington, of the British branch of the family that gave us our first President, arrives in New York from South America, en route for the British army.

Frilled Curtains Give Glamour to Windows

By RUTH WYETH SPEARS
THE newest frilled curtains give a full, lavish effect. If they make your old curtains look a bit dejected, like those shown here at the right, don't be discouraged. The window at the left uses those same curtains with a dash of glamour added. This economy trick saved a certain young ma-



tron enough money to buy a number of smart new accessories for her living room. She discovered that a diagonal dart, which took up the curtains at the back, threw more fullness to the front, thus giving the new high drape a smart line. Tie-backs and valance were made of flowered chintz in rose and plum tones, lined with plain plum colored chintz. One yard of each kind of chintz was required for each window.

NOTE: The chintz covered lamp shade and the spool table also add interest to this window. Full directions for making a shade like the one illustrated are in SEWING, Book 1. Directions for the spool table are in Book 5; also descriptions of the first four booklets in this series. There are 32 homemaking projects in each number; for which there is a service charge of 10c each to cover cost and mailing. Send order to:

MRS. RUTH WYETH SPEARS
Drawer 10
Bedford Hills New York
Enclose 10 cents for each book ordered.
Name
Address

Suitor's Slight Slip Gave Her Pop an Opening

Reggie had courted the daughter of the house for many months now, and finally came to the conclusion that it was time to declare himself. He found no great difficulty in obtaining the young lady's consent. However, he dreaded the ordeal he expected when asking for her father's approval. Then he hit upon the happy thought of writing to him. Here let it be known, his spelling wasn't so hot! "Dear Sir," ran the note, "I wish to ask for the hand of your daughter, the flour of the family." Back came the father's reply: "Is it the flour of the family or the dough you're after?"

DON'T BE BOSSSED

BY YOUR LAXATIVE-RELIEVE
CONSTIPATION THIS MODERN WAY
When you feel gassy, headachy, lopy due to clogged-up bowels, do as millions do—take Feen-A-Mint at bedtime. Next morning—thorough, comfortable relief, helping you start the day full of your normal energy and pep, feeling like a million! Feen-A-Mint doesn't disturb your night's rest or interfere with work the next day. Try Feen-A-Mint, the chewing gum laxative, yourself. It tastes good, it's handy and economical... a family supply costs only
FEEN-A-MINT 10¢

False Prudence
There is a courageous wisdom; there is also a false, reptile prudence, the result not of caution, but of fear.—Burke.

THE AWFUL PRICE YOU PAY FOR BEING NERVOUS

Read These Important Facts!
Quivering nerves can make you old, haggard, cranky—can make your life a nightmare of jealousy, self pity and "the blues." Often such nervousness is due to female functional disorders. So take famous Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to help calm unstrung nerves and lessen functional "irregularities." For over 50 years relieving Pinkham's Compound has helped tens of thousands of grandmothers, mothers and daughters "in time of need." Try it!

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